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PATENT

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File: Blind Gift

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor	:	EWING, Christopher
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Honorable Commissioner of Patents
and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

AMENDED VERSION OF THE CLAIMS

S I R :

Set forth below is the amended version of the claims in the above-identified matter:

1. (Once Amended) A method enabling a first party to send a gift to a second party[, wherein the second party is identified only by a pseudonym;] the method comprising the steps of:

[a.] receiving [from] a request over the Internet from said first party [a request to take an order for a gift to a second party;

b. obtaining from said first party an identification of a] for said gift to be sent to said second party;

[c.] obtaining over the Internet from said first party a pseudonym of said second party; and

[d.] securing over the Internet a non-pseudonymous name and address associated with the second party's pseudonym for enabling said gift to be sent to said second party while said non-pseudonymous name is not revealed said first party.

2. (Once Amended) The method of claim 1, further including the step of issuing an order that said gift [identified by said first party] be sent to said second party's non-pseudonymous name and address.

5. (Once Amended) The method of claim 1, further including the steps of, prior to the step of receiving said request [for said gift by said first party,]:

[i.] giving said second party an opportunity to choose whether said second party will accept, or will not accept, attempted gifts addressed only to said second party's pseudonym; and,

[ii.] storing said second party's choice, if made, in said database in association with said second party's pseudonym or name and address.

6. (Once Amended) The method of claim 5, further including the step of, upon electronically obtaining said second party's pseudonym from said first party, checking said second party's stored choice.

7. (Once Amended) The method of claim [6]5, further including the step of, if said second party's choice [was]is to accept gifts addressed only to said second party's pseudonym, issuing an order that said gift identified by said first party be sent to said second party's non-pseudonymous name and address,

8. (Once Amended) The method of claim [6]5, further including the step of, if said second party's choice [was]is not to accept gifts addressed only to said second party's pseudonym, or if said second party made no choice, initiating [means for preventing]electronically informing said first party that said gift identified by said first party [from being]was not sent to said second party's non-pseudonymous name and address.

9. (Once Amended) The method of claim [8]1, further including the step of electronically informing said first party that said second party has not chosen to accept gift addressed only to said second party's pseudonym.

10. (Once Amended) The method of claim 1, [wherein said]further including the step of electronically communicating to a third party an order that said gift be sent [is issued to a third party].

11. (Once Amended) The method of claim 1, further including the step of electronically giving said first party an opportunity to reveal true identity information about said first party's self.

12. (Once Amended) The method of claim 1, further including the step of

electronically giving said second party an opportunity to reveal true identity information about said second party's self.

13. (Once Amended) The method of claim 1, further including the step of electronically charging a fee to said first party.

14. (Once Amended) The method of claim 13, wherein said fee is charged [after the step of issuing said order that said gift be sent] electronically ot a charge card of said first party.

15. (Once Amended) The method of claim 13, further including the step of confirming receipt of said order that said gift be sent, before charging said fee to said first party.

16. (Once Amended) The method of claim 1, further including the step of electronically charging a first fee to said first party for carrying out all steps up to and including issuing said order that said gift be sent.

17. (Once Amended) The method of claim 16, further including the step of electronically charging a second fee to said first party, wherein said second fee is related to the value of said gift.

18. (Once Amended) The method of claim 1, further including the step of electronically charging a fee to said second party.

19. (Once Amended) A system [for] enabling a first party to send a gift to a second party, comprising:

computers respectively for said parties; and

[a.] a web site, operably connected to said computers, enabling

[means for a] said first party to [identify one's self;

b. means for said first party to identify a] send said gift[;

c. means for said first party to identify] to said second party by a pseudonym of said second party without said web site revealing a non-pseudonymous name to said first party[;

d. means for storing said first party's identity, said gift identity, and said second party's pseudonym;

e. means for determining said second party's name and mailing address from] pseudonym; and,

f. means for sending said identified gift to said second party in said second party's true name at said second party's true mailing address].

20. (Once Amended) The system of claim 19, [further including means for] wherein said web site enables charging a fee to said first party.

21. (Once Amended) The system of claim 19, [further including means for enabling] wherein said web site enables said second party to refuse [a]said gift from said first party.

22. (Once Amended) The system of claim 19, [further including means for

enabling] wherein said web site enables said second party to refuse [a]said gift from said first party [if said first party is identified only by a pseudonym].

23. (Once Amended) The system of claim 19, [further including means for enabling] wherein said web site enables said second party to refuse a gift from said first party if said first party is [anonymous] not identified by a true name.

24. (Once Amended) The system of claim 19, [further including means for enabling said] wherein said web site enables second party to refuse a gift from said first party if said first party is identified by a particular pseudonym or true name.

25. (Once Amended) The system of claim 19, [further including means for enabling] wherein said web site enables said second party to refuse a gift from said first party if said gift is of a particular product-type.

26. (Once Amended) The system of claim 19, [further including means for enabling] wherein said web site enables said second party to respond to said first party after delivery of a gift sent to said second party by said first party.

27. (Once Amended) The system of claim 19, [further including means for enabling] wherein said web site enables said second party to respond to said first party after refusal of an attempted gift to said second party by said first party.

28. (Once Amended) The system of claim 19, [further including means for